

Application No.: 09/744621

Docket No.: 09879-00017-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-18 cancelled

19. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein the microparticle has an average diameter of from 1 to 1000 μm .
20. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, which further comprises at least one formulation auxiliary or other auxiliary.
21. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 20, wherein the formulating auxiliary used comprises diatomaceous earth.
22. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, which additionally comprises one or more active substances.
23. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a weight-average molar mass from 1 to 10,000 kg/mol.
24. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a viscosity number from 5 to 1000 ml/g.
25. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a glass transition temperature from -20 to 220°C.
26. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 18~~ claim 36, wherein the microparticle has an average diameter of from 100 to 600 μm .

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27. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 24, which additionally comprises one or more agrochemical or pharmaceutical substances.
28. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 26, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a weight-average molar mass from 1 to 1,200 kg/mol.
29. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 28, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a viscosity number from 5 to 300 ml/g.
30. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation which comprises the microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36.
31. (Currently amended) An agrochemical formulation which comprises the microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36.
32. (Currently amended) A method of control releasing an active substance from the microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, which comprises releasing the active substance in a dose advantageous for the biological organism, after a particular time and/or period, allowing for some random variation depending on the circumstances.
33. (Currently amended) A method of control releasing of agrochemicals from the microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, which comprises releasing the active substance in a dose advantageous for the biological organism, after a particular time and/or period, allowing for some random variation depending on the circumstances.

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34. (Currently amended) A process to ~~produce a~~ produce the microparticle as claimed in claim 36, which comprises kneading at least one active substance and at least one cycloolefin copolymer to form a kneaded product and grinding said kneaded product to form the microparticle.
35. (Currently amended) A process to ~~produce a~~ produce the microparticle as claimed in claim 36, which comprises extruding at least one active substance and at least one cycloolefin copolymer to form a extruded product and grinding said extruded product to form the microparticle.
36. (Previously presented) A microparticle for controlled active-substance release comprising at least one active substance and at least one thermoplastic cycloolefin copolymer wherein the cycloolefin polymer is a norbornene-ethylene copolymer and/or tetracyclododecene-ethylene copolymer and wherein the active substance has been embedded in a matrix.
37. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein said at least one active substance is an agrochemical.
38. (Currently amended) The microparticle as claimed in ~~claim 16~~ claim 36, wherein said at least one active substance is a pharmaceutical active substance.